

**Vohra Committee Report**

4761. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE :  
SHRI SATYAJIT SINH DULIP SINH GAEKWAD:  
SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA :  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any suggestion/recommendation regarding constitution of a high powered independent Committee/Commission to action the Vohra Committee Report or criminalisation of politics;

(b) if so, the brief outlines of the suggestion/recommendation; and

(c) the steps/action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 20.3.1997 in the Public Interest Litigation filed by Shri Dinesh Trivedi, MP and others has observed that matters relating to Politician-Criminal-Bureaucrat nexus needs to be addressed by a body which can function with the highest degree of independence being completely free from every conceivable influence and pressure. Till such time this institution is created, the Hon'ble Court has recommended that a High level Committee be appointed by the President of India on the advice of the Prime Minister and after consultations is with the Speaker of the Lok Sabha. The Committee should monitor investigations involving the kind of nexus referred to in the Vohra Committee Report. The issues and options arising out of the recommendations of the Hon'ble Supreme Court with regard to the Vohra Committee Report are engaging the attention of the Government.

**National Policy for Fishery**

4762. SHRI RAJABHAU THAKRE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a National Policy for Fisheries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are earning foreign exchange from the export of fisheries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND

DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The Policy of the Government of India on the subject of fisheries has been stated in various documents including and Eighth Five Year Plan Document. However, recognising the need for a consolidated statement on fishery policy, the Ministry of Agriculture has drafted a National Fisheries Policy covering all aspects of the fisheries sector. The draft National fisheries Policy was referred to the States and also put up to the Central Board of Fisheries which had endorsed the draft Policy statement.

The objectives, as laid down in the draft National Fisheries Policy are:

(i) Conservation of aquatic and genetic diversity;

(ii) enhancing production of fish and the productivity of fishermen, fish farmers and fishing industry;

(iii) generating employment for the coastal and rural poor;

(iv) improving the socio-economic conditions of the traditional fishermen and fish farmers; and

(v) augmenting export of fish and marine products taking into account the need for responsible and sustainable fisheries.

The draft Policy provides for development of marine fisheries, inland fisheries, aquaculture, infrastructure including marketing facilities, fisheries cooperatives, manpower research & training, extension, credit facilities and insurance cover during the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002).

(c) and (d) The quantity of exports of fish and other marine products during the last three years and the value thereof, year-wise, are as under:

Year	Export of marine products	
	Quantity ('000 tonnes)	Value (Rs. crore)
1994-95	307.3	3575.27
1995-96	296.3	3501.11
1996-97 (Provisional)	359.7	4045.35

**Decline in Job Opportunities**

4763. SHRI RAMAKRISHNA REDDY: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether job opportunities have declined after